

THE GULF COAST BREEZE.

Official Organ of Wakulla County, Florida.

PUBLISHED EVERY FRIDAY.

R. DON McLEOD, Jr., Editor.
CRAWFORDVILLE, FLORIDA.

Entered at the Postoffice at Crawfordville as second class mail matter.

One Year in Advance.....\$1.00
Six Months.....50 Cents

Here is one of the questions which candidates for appointment as school-teachers in Abilene, Kansas, were required to answer: "Why does a horse walk backward while eating grass, and a cow walk forward?"

A railroad to Jerusalem from Joppa is bad enough, indignantly declares the Independent, but the proposal to build a railroad to the summit of Mount Sinai utterly contradicts all the prophecies. Who would want to go to Sinai by railroad? Nobody will go there except to get a feeling of the desert, and to enter into the spirit of the life of Moses and Elijah. One cannot do that on a railroad; it requires the slow pace of a camel.

The percentage of recent losses in British shipping is higher than usual, but France, Sweden, Holland and Austria show an even higher rate of loss. Lloyds' quarterly report of British shippings states that the three months' losses amounted to 254 vessels. Of these 123 were wrecked, 11 were lost in collision, seven were burned, and 31 were abandoned at sea. Under the distressing category of "missing ships" there were 29 vessels. The large number of steamers lost in bad weather presupposes insufficient power to grapple with it. Underpowered engines is one of the evils of cargo boats of the "tramp" class. Shifting of cargo is another fruitful cause of disaster.

"We are on the verge of a great mining era," remarked Clarence King, formerly chief of the United States Geological Survey, in the Baltimore American. "The time is not far distant when a man can start out of Denver and travel to Klondike, stopping every night at a mining camp. Already two American stamp mills are pounding away on the borders of the Straits of Magellan, and the day is approaching when a chain of mining camps will extend from Cape Horn to St. Michael. I believe we are about to enter upon a century which will open up vast resources, and will be the grandest the earth has ever known. Before the end of the twentieth century the traveler will enter a sleeping car at Chicago bound via Behring Straits for St. Petersburg, and the dream of Governor Gilpin will be realized."

The London Law Journal says that "suicide is quite alarmingly on the increase in France, and presents as serious a problem to thoughtful statesmen in that country as the dwindling birth-rate. In vain to such the church refuses its prayers, the army funeral with military honors. The same tendency is observable in England. What attitude ought the law of England to take up in the presence of this growing evil? It will be said that the law of England has long ago taken up its attitude on the subject of suicide, stigmatizing it as felony. This is hard measure, and juries inclining to charity have of late years uniformly postulated insanity as the explanation, and returned a verdict of unsound mind as a presumption rather than an inference. Whether this presumption is well founded may be doubted. Even philosophers have not always been agreed as to the ethics of suicide. Englishmen have the feeling strong in them that suicide is the refuge of the coward. In old days and in small communities the loss of an able-bodied tribesman was a source of weakness and danger. To our Anglo-Saxon race, with its overflowing population, this consideration is insignificant. The seriousness of the suicide problem consists in the fact that the prevalence of suicide is symptomatic of a diseased condition of the body politic. It is to this law and legislation must address itself, not to any fresh penalties; to promoting healthier conditions of life and inculcating a higher standard of citizenship."

MESSAGE TO CONTAIN PLAN

LOOKING TO THE INAUGURATION OF CURRENCY REFORM.

ON LINE WITH GAGE'S VIEWS.

President Will Discuss the Matter Fully in His Recommendations to the Congress.

The Washington Evening Star says that "it can be stated on the highest authority that the president is going to recommend a plan for currency reform in his message; and, further, that that part of the message was written with the co-operation of Secretary Gage. It is authoritatively stated that Secretary Gage is perfectly satisfied with the president's message in regard to financial legislation, and that it meets his entire views and support."

"Further than this, it was stated on the same high authority that the secretary of the treasury will submit to congress in his annual report the plan for currency reform which he submitted to the cabinet at its meeting on Friday, October 20th. "The secretary intends to submit the same high authority that the secretary of the treasury will submit to congress in his annual report the plan for currency reform which he submitted to the cabinet at its meeting on Friday, October 20th."

Teller Expresses Doubt. A Washington special says: When asked to give his opinion as to the probability of legislation affecting the currency during the approaching session of congress, Senator Teller said: "I do not believe there will be any legislation looking to substitution of bank notes for greenbacks and treasury notes, which appears to be the favorite method of currency reform, so-called, advocated by the supporters of the gold standard. I think it very doubtful whether the advocates of the change can agree upon the details of such legislation, and bankers will naturally hesitate to increase the issue of bank notes in sufficient quantity to take the place of the entire volume of greenbacks and treasury notes, especially in view of the fact that the redemption of bank notes must, to satisfy the demands the currency reformers, be in gold."

Senator Teller said he considered it quite certain that the president would make some recommendation upon the currency problem to congress, but he was of the opinion that the suggestion would be in general terms, as in his inaugural message, and that the president would leave the details to congress.

The senator expressed doubt as to whether the administration would take any steps looking to the encouragement of the Cubans in their war for independence. He continued:

"I think that congress can settle the Cuban question by recognizing the belligerent rights of the Cubans, and that should have been done long since. I believe the house will pass the senate resolution sent to it during the special session, if that measure is brought before it, but it is quite doubtful whether it will be allowed to consider it at all."

METHODISTS IN ATHENS.

The North Georgia Conference Assembles in Classic City.

The North Georgia Methodist conference was organized at Athens Wednesday morning by the election of Rev. Joel P. Daves, secretary, to succeed Dr. Heidt, of Atlanta, and the appointment of the various committees.

It is not generally known that the North Georgia conference has the distinction of being the largest conference in the United States, but such is the fact. No other in the southern or the northern church can equal its membership of 93,000. It contributes \$20,000 to foreign and \$15,000 to home missions, and will have a large representation in the quadrennial general conference, which meets at Baltimore next year.

Bishop Galloway for the first time presided over this conference. He has just returned from the Memphis conference, and will go from St. Louis to the North Alabama conference which meets at Florence a week hence.

NEBRASKA'S OFFICIAL COUNT.

The Republicans Show a Gain Over Last gubernatorial Election.

The official count of the election held November 2d was completed at Lincoln, Neb., Tuesday evening. Sullivan, fusion candidate for supreme court judge, received 102,888 and Post, republican, 89,009.

Compared with the vote on governor a year ago, when Holcomb, fusionist, received 116,415 and McCall, republican, 94,723, the republicans made a large gain. Holcomb, however, ran ahead of his ticket, the average fusion plurality last year being in round numbers 16,000, while this year it is 11,000.

NITROGLYCERIN CAUSES DISASTER

Force of the Explosion Is Felt For Ten Miles Around.

An explosion of nitroglycerin occurred half a mile west of Chesterfield, Ind., at a late hour Thursday night. Persons one mile away were lifted from their feet by the concussion, and the jar was perceptibly felt for ten miles. Fire followed the explosion, but the flames were quickly extinguished.

Sixty quarts of nitroglycerin had been hauled there for the purpose of shooting a gas well. The explosive was placed in a large zinc tub, located at the end of the steam exhaust pipe, for the purpose of thawing out the mixture. It is the theory that the tub became heated. A hole ten feet long and several in depth was torn in the earth, and the engine was blown to pieces.

Two drillers had a remarkable escape. They were standing within thirty feet of the scene of the accident, and were hurled twenty feet by the force of the explosion, but with the exception of a few bruises they escaped unhurt.

MINERS RESUME WORK.

Twelve Thousand Diggers in Illinois Enter the Fite Again.

The coal mining strike in the northern Illinois district ended Friday. Twelve thousand men have gone back to work in the Coal City, Braidwood, Carbon Hill, Spring Valley, Bodie, Seatonville, La Salle and Oglesby fields.

One thousand men remain out at Streator, the only point where miners and operators have not agreed. A settlement there is expected within a short time.

The victory is with the miners, although they have not won all they asked for.

The strike had been on since July 4th. It started as a part of the general strike ordered by the United Mine Workers of America. The Pennsylvania and Ohio miners settled their differences early in September. In Indiana work was resumed about the same time. The 30,000 miners of Illinois refused to ratify the terms of the agreement made at Columbus, O., and continued the strike.

TO GEORGIA FARMERS.

Commissioner of Agriculture Nesbitt Addresses a Timely Letter.

After carefully summing up the situation, Commissioner Nesbitt of Georgia has decided that the farmers of the south must vary from the rule of old and change their plans of farming so far as the cotton crop is concerned.

Commissioner Nesbitt says the farmers cannot raise large quantities of cotton at 5 cents and expect to pay the expenses of the farm alone from the sale of the cotton crop. He tells the farmers they must plow deeper and depend more upon nature's bountiful hand and buy less fertilizers. Instead of devoting all their acres to cotton, they should sow other crops which will sustain the stock as well as bring in ready cash to the market.

He warns the farmers of the south of the evil results of a burdensome cotton crop, and advises them to plant fewer acres in cotton and to plant more corn, peas and similar rotating crops.

WOMEN BARRED OUT.

Methodist Minister Did Not Approve of Female Preaching.

A Chattanooga dispatch states that a female revivalist, Mrs. Harris, has concluded a revival at Hillsboro, Ala., a few miles east of Courtland, on the Memphis and Charleston railroad. Large congregations attended the services, including many of the adjacent counties, going forty and fifty miles to hear her.

The meeting was commenced in the Methodist Episcopal church, south, by authority of the board of stewards, but Rev. Anson West, presiding elder of the Decatur district, learning of the use of this church by a female revivalist, went to Hillsboro and overruled the action of the board, interrupted the proceedings and caused a considerable flurry by officially closing the doors of the church to women preachers.

The affair has created great consternation among the Methodists and it will be taken to the district conference.

Mrs. Harris is the widow of the late Robert Lee Harris, a noted evangelist of his time.

NAIL MEN COMBINE.

Affection of Entire Iron Trade Will Be the Result.

Information from reliable sources in Cleveland, Ohio, is to the effect that at the protracted meeting in New York city during the past week, attended by nearly all the big producers of wire, wire nails and rods in the country, an agreement to consolidate was virtually reached, only one concern remaining to be induced to go in.

The combination will be the largest ever attempted, and will affect the entire iron trade. In order to avoid the fate of the old wire nail pool, the rod mills will be included as well as a number of steel producing concerns.

GAGE TALKS OF CURRENCY

AT ANNUAL DINNER OF NEW YORK CHAMBER OF COMMERCE.

TREASURER WAS GUEST OF HONOR.

He Discussed "Currency Reform—Now or When"—But Fought Shy of the Important "How."

The one hundred and twenty-ninth annual dinner of the chamber of commerce of New York City was given at Delmonico's new restaurant on Fifth avenue and Forty-fourth street Tuesday night. Men distinguished in professional and commercial life were present and the beautiful banquet hall was taxed to its utmost capacity. Secretary of the Treasury Lyman J. Gage was the guest of honor and chief speaker. Alexander E. Orr, president of the chamber, presided.

It was long past the appointed time when President Orr arose and made the introductory speech.

The health of "The President of the United States" was then drunk standing, with three rousing cheers, while the orchestra played "The Land of the Free."

Secretary Gage was flatteringly received, when he rose to speak to the toast "Currency Reform—Now or When?"

Secretary Gage began by referring to the history of the chamber during the one hundred and twenty-nine years of existence and of the serious and important problems which the pioneer members and those who followed them had to solve. Those of our day, he said, were equally serious and even more complex. One of these, he declared, is fundamental in a material sense to every state. "For four years," he said, "its injurious shadow has depressed industry and enterprise," but he finds in the result of the last national election "assurances to lift doubts, to banish fears, to brace hope and to lend courage."

"This happy reaction in enterprise now witnessed," says the secretary, "the stimulation to industry which has followed this new assurance, is a confirmatory evidence of the blighting influence of that fierce propaganda for 'free silver' and semi-repudiation that met its just rebuke from the freeman's ballot in 1896."

Secretary Gage declared that he believes the shape and destiny of our national life, as it may be affected by financial legislation, is to be determined within the next five years.

"When ultra conservatism applies it to justify a condition which is 'bad enough' instead of 'well enough,' it is fatally misapplied," he continued. "That the condition of our currency and banking system is 'bad enough' is certified to by the deliberate judgment of the great body of economic students and by a general consensus of opinion among business men."

"It certainly is not well enough with a banking system utterly inelastic and correspondingly irresponsible to the domestic requirements of trade and industry to which in its proper relation the banking system should be the faithful and efficient handmaiden. It is not well enough with the national treasury awkwardly performing an office which is entirely foreign to its proper function. It is not well enough; it is absolutely bad, when the result is a public treasury so expanded in its demand liabilities in a time of profound peace as to threaten its solvency in case of war."

The secretary was glad he was not called upon to discuss the "how" or to go into details of methods to achieve currency reform. To go into that discussion might be injudicious in view of his official position and would be entering upon the field of greatest controversy where doubts and fears are now numerous and where passions and prejudices have their freest play. Said he:

"Every one favors reform—his kind of reform. Many are willing to have reform, anybody's kind, and it can be had without struggle and free of cost. Others, seeing that the path of virtue leads to serene and restful places, are willing to walk in the way of it, even at the cost of present pain and sacrifice."

THANKFUL FOR DEATH SENTENCE.

Cyrus Not Anxious To Die, But Wanted To Be Polite.

In the superior court at Atlanta, Ga., Tuesday, Tom Cyrus, colored, was sentenced by Judge Candler to die on the scaffold December 22.

The prisoner received his sentence with a calmness that was amazing, and when his doom was pronounced he bowed and said: "Thank you."

It was the first time in the annals of Fulton county that a judge was ever thanked for imposing the death penalty.

When asked by a reporter if he was really glad to die, Cyrus replied: "Oh, no, but I wanted to be polite to his honor."

SECRETARY WILSON REPORTS.

He Presents Some Ideas That Are of General Interest.

Hon. James Wilson, secretary of agriculture, gives his ideas as to the kind of education which should be given the youth who is seeking information that will be of practical value to him in the pursuit of agriculture. In his annual report showing the work done in the different branches of the department over which he presides the secretary refers to the agricultural colleges and experiment stations.

The following summary of his views upon the important matter of education will be of particular interest to the people of Georgia just now, when the question of the proper methods of educating boys to be farmers has been brought so prominently to this notice through the reports of legislative committees:

"In agriculture it is becoming to be clearly seen that teaching the boy how to plow or to perform any other farm operation is not the most important service which the school can render. There must be added to this definite and careful instruction in the principles on which agricultural practice is based."

"The farmer must be taught to think in the lines where science has shed light upon his art if his practice is to be most thoroughly successful. Fortunately, science has already much to tell the farmer which is most useful to him and every year sees an increase in the great store from which the agricultural student can safely draw."

On another phase of this particular controversy Secretary Wilson expresses himself at length. The secretary deems it important that the land grant colleges and the experiment stations should be kept wide apart in their management.

The secretary's report contains much that is of interest not only to farmers but also to others who care to keep posted on the progress of the country. Being the first report of the present secretary, this one goes into the objects and purposes of the department, and tells of the scope of the work assigned to it, going into this more fully than will the later reports of the same official.

POPULIST COMMITTEE MEETS.

Assemble in St. Louis to Discuss Plans for the Future.

The national reorganization committee of the populist party representing the middle of the readers opposed to fusion with the democrats at the last presidential election, met at St. Louis Tuesday, with 29 states represented.

Chairman Milton Park said that the purpose of the meeting was to determine their future course.

"We are opposed to fusion with anybody or anything," he continued, "and want a straight fight, if we can get it."

"The mission of the national organization committee appointed at the Memphis meeting of the National Reform Press association, last winter, is not to supersede the people's party national committee, but to assist it. I recent wrote Chairman Marion Butler tendering what assistance we could give. He received the letter but has not replied. We are still willing to cooperate with Mr. Butler, if he desires it. If he does not our course will soon be determined."

WEYLER TO BARCELONA.

Two Reports as to How the Former Captain-General Was Received.

A special from Barcelona, Spain, states that General Weyler, the former captain-general of Cuba, arrived in that city Tuesday morning on board the steamer Montserrat from Havana. The general landed beneath the Columbus monument and was acclaimed by about 20,000 people.

In order to escape the manifestation the general was driven to the house of Deputy Saladrigas, where, however, he was forced to appear upon the balcony and was applauded by the crowds of people who had been gathered about the house.

Another dispatch from Madrid says: The official reports of the landing of General Weyler in Barcelona differ from the independent reports. The former says the general landed without demonstration in his honor assuming the proportions anticipated and that as he traversed the streets the public appeared indifferent.

Continuing, the official version of the affair adds that six regular carriages awaited the general, but the crowd was small.

REWARD FOR HEROISM.

A Gold Medal Presented to William S. Langford For Saving Lives.

A gold medal was presented Wednesday to William S. Langford, who is a clerk in the office of the New York Central and Hudson River railroad company at New York, for saving the lives of the passengers in a submerged car in the recent disaster at Garriersons, N. Y.

The presentation was made in the presence of Dr. Chauncey M. Depew and the other railroad officials and clerks at the Grand Central station.

Langford swam out in the Hudson river to the submerged car and chopped a hole in it, releasing three men.